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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

Group Art Unit: 2765

Our Ref: 7791-0103-25X CONT

Re: Inventor: Michael C. SCROGGIE et al.

Serial No: 09/505,632

Filed: February 16, 2000

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR...

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Sir:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESTRICTION RESPONSE

Our check in the amount of \$ -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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7791-0103-25X CONT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
Michael C. SCROGGIE et al. : EXAMINER: ROBINSON-BOYCE, A.
SERIAL NO: 09/505,632 :
FILED: February 16, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2765
FOR: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION THROUGH...

RESTRICTION RESPONSE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed August 9, 2000, Applicants elect with traverse the invention of Group I, Claims 24-31, 34, 36-43, 46, 48 and 49 for examination on the merits in the present application. It appears that claims 46, 48 and 49 were inadvertently overlooked in the Restriction Requirement, but it is noted that these claims correspond to the invention of Group I and believe it was the Examiner's intention to group them as such. Claim 46 corresponds to claim 34, claim 48 corresponds to claim 24, and claim 49 corresponds to claim 28.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement since, as noted in MPEP §803, "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." Since the restricted claims would appear to be part of an overlapping search area, as evidenced by their common classification in Class 705, it is

respectfully submitted that the burden on the Examiner would be minimal and the burden on Applicants would be significant if Applicants were required to file and prosecute a separate divisional application(s).

Consequently, Applicants respectfully request this restriction requirement be withdrawn. Accordingly, an examination on the merits of Claims 24-49 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action on the merits of these claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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